

**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully traverses and requests reconsideration.

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-14 and 16-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Noetzel. Applicant has amended the independent claims to include respective dependent claims 2, 9 and 15 as originally filed and as such the claims are believed to be amended as to form and are in condition for allowance and these claims have been previously examined. Claims 2, 9 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Noetzel in view of Nakayama. The Office Action admits that Noetzel does not teach, among other things, converting the input value such that the input mantissa is within a predefined range, but cites Nakayama as being properly combinable with the teachings of Noetzel to render the claimed invention obvious. Applicant respectfully traverses since the teaching of Nakayama would in fact render the Noetzel system inoperative and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the disparate teachings of these references. For example, the Noetzel reference specifically describes a floating point input wherein, for example, the floating point exponent (see FIG. 5 cited in the final action) is used with the set associative memory to determine a word select for polynomial coefficient selection. As such, the floating point inputs are in fact needed and used in Noetzel to operate his system. If the Noetzel circuit was modified as alleged in the Office Action to include a fixed point input, the Noetzel system would not work since the word select data in Noetzel would be incorrect and the set associate memory would be inoperative to provide valid words to select the coefficients. In fact, Applicant's claimed invention can be faster and smaller than the system of Noetzel. Accordingly, one of ordinary skill in the art would not combine these teachings as alleged. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below-listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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